

fjufyfzsj.] SILKS, &c., PUT OUT THE KITCHEN  
FIRE. 583

*what thou hast no need of, and, ere long, thou shcdd sell thy necessaries!* And again, *At a, great pennyworth, pause a while !* He means, that perhaps^ the cheapness is apparent only, and not real; or the bargain\*by straitening thee in thy business, may do thee more harm than good. For in another place, he says. *Many have been ruined by buying good pennyworths.*

Again, *Poor RICHARD* says, *'Tis foolish, to lay out money in a purchase of Repentance ;* and yet this folly is practised every day at Vendues, for want of minding the *Almanac*.

*Wise men, as Poor DICK* says, *learn by others' harms; Fools, scarcely by their own:* but *Félix quern faciunt aliena pericula cautum*. Many a one, for the sake of finery on the back, has gone with a hungry belly, and half starved their families. *Silks and satins, scarlet and velvets,* as *Poor RICHARD* says, *put out the kitchen fire!* These are not the necessaries of life; they can scarcely be called the conveniences : and yet only because they look pretty, how many *want* to have them ! The artificial wants of mankind thus become more numerous than the natural; and as *Poor Dic^* says, *For one poor person, there are a hundred indigent.*

By these, and other extravagances, the genteel are reduced to poverty, and forced to borrow of those whom they formerly despised; but who, through Industry and Frugality, have maintained their standing. In which case, it appears plainly that *A ploughman on his legs is higher than a gentleman on his knees,* as *Poor RICHARD* says. Perhaps they have had a small estate left them, which they knew not the getting of. They think *'tis day ! and will never be night!*; that *a little to be spent out of so much ! is not worth minding* (*A Child and a Fool, as Poor RICHARD* says, *imagine Twenty Shillings and Twenty Years can never be spent*): but *always taking out of the meal tub, and never putting in, soon comes to the bottom*. Then, as *Poor DICK* says, *When the well's dry, they know the worth of water!* but this they might have known before, if they had taken his advice. // *you would know the value of money ; go, and try to borrow some!* For, *he that goes a borrowing, goes a sorrowing* I and indeed, so does he that lends to such people, *when he goes to get it in again!*

*Poor DICK* further advises, and says

*Fond Pride of Dress is, sure, a very  
curse! Ere Fancy you consult;  
consult your purse!*